



THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

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GIA TSC NO.

SM-1899-51
3 August 1951

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

Subject: Coordination of CIA Activities with
the Joint Chiefs of Staff

1. Reference is made to your memorandum for the Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff, on the above subject, dated 29 June 1951. In that memorandum you request an indication of the mechanism for coordination which the Joint Chiefs of Staff desire to establish both with the Joint Chiefs of Staff in Washington and with respective theater commanders. I am informed that, since the receipt of your memorandum the matter has been discussed by yourself and Rear Admiral L. C. Stevens of The Joint Staff, and that it was made clear at that time that your memorandum is concerned solely with the prosecution of the "cold war."

2. The Joint Chiefs of Staff desire that, for the "cold war", the existing mechanisms for coordination be used. These are:

a. At the Washington level:

(1) The Joint Subsidiary Plans Division, Joint Staff, which was established to coordinate, among other things, the support capabilities of the military Services with the activities undertaken by the Office of Policy Coordination.

(2) A designated representative of the Joint Chiefs of Staff (the Chief, Joint Subsidiary Plans Division, The Joint Staff) to furnish guidance from the military point of view to the Assistant Director for Policy Coordination, and to represent the Joint Chiefs of Staff at meetings of the Psychological Strategy Board.

b. At the theater level:

(1) Coordination between the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) and Unified Commanders to be accomplished via the CIA Senior Representative in the area. (Where a liaison officer has been detached by CIA to the Commander's staff.

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JCS review(s) completed.

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it may be desirable, by local arrangement, to have this officer serve as the link between the CIA Senior Representative and the Commander.) It is within the discretion of the CIA as to the extent of knowledge of "cold war" operations to be transmitted to the military Commander, provided that:

(a) Where the latter is called upon to support such operations, he must have sufficient information to do so intelligently and understandingly.

(b) Where such operations have an impact on the Commander's peacetime responsibilities, he must be kept fully informed.

(c) Where such operations affect the Commander's capabilities for "hot" war, he must be kept fully informed.

(2) Coordination on these matters between the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the Unified Commanders is effected by the normal command relationship.

3. It is recognized that, in view of the delicate nature of these matters, these coordinating mechanisms are dependent for their workability on mutual understanding and maximum cooperation on the part of the limited numbers of specially qualified personnel who are primarily responsible for carrying them out.

For the Joint Chiefs of Staff:


W. G. LALOR
Rear Admiral, U.S. Navy (Ret.),
Secretary.

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